

Service Date: December 6, 2000

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER of Margaret Stiger, dba )	
Northern Lights Limousine Service, )	DOCKET NO. T-00.62.PCN
Bigfork, Montana, Application for a )	
Montana Intrastate Certificate of )	ORDER NO. 6499
Public Convenience and Necessity )	

**FINAL ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION**

**BACKGROUND**

1. On July 10, 2000, Margaret Stiger, doing business as Northern Lights Limousine Service, Big Fork, Montana, (Northern Lights or Applicant) applied to the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission) for a Montana Intrastate Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing transportation of the following:

Class B – Passengers in limousine service between all points and places in Flathead County, Montana.

2. Northern Lights had also requested temporary authority, and on August 9, 2000, the Commission issued a Notice of Temporary Authority, granting Northern Lights temporary authority for 120 days as follows:

Class B – Passengers in limousine service between all points and places in Flathead County, Montana. **LIMITATION:** All transportation movements must originate or terminate in Bigfork, Montana and a ten (10) mile radius thereof.

3. The Commission duly issued and published a notice of Northern Light's application.

4. The Commission received protests from Flathead Area Custom Transportation, Inc., dba Kalispell Taxi and Airport Shuttle Service, Kalispell, Montana; James H. and Joan P. Michael dba Airport Shuttle Service, Kalispell, Montana; First Class Limousine Service, Inc., Missoula, Montana; and Valet Limousine, Inc., Missoula, Montana.

5. The Commission duly issued and published the Notice of Public Hearing; the hearing was scheduled for October 30, 2000 1:30 p.m., at the Hotel Bigfork, 425 Grand Drive, Bigfork, Montana.

6. On October 30, 2000, Protestants First Class Limousine Service, Inc., and Flathead Area

Custom Transportation, Inc., and Applicant conducted prehearing negotiations, resulting in a settlement and stipulation, subject to executing final settlement and stipulated terms. At the agreement of the parties, the hearing was vacated.

7. The Commission received the executed Stipulated Settlement Agreement on November 20, 2000. Applicant Margaret Stiger, dba Northern Lights Limousine Service, and Protestants First Class Limousine Service, Inc., and Flathead Area Custom Transportation, Inc., stipulated to the following authority:

Class B – Passengers in limousines service between all points and places in Flathead County. LIMITATIONS: (1) All movements must originate or terminate in Bigfork or a five (5) mile radius thereof; (2) All movements are limited to Flathead County; and (3) Transportation movements require 24 hours advance notice.

In addition to these terms, the parties had entered into a private agreement.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND DISCUSSION

8. The Commission finds that the parties have entered into a reasonable stipulation to the limitations to the authority requested. The Commission exercises no authority over the terms of the private agreement.

9. The Commission approves the stipulated limitations to the grant of authority.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the parties and matters in this proceeding pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 12, Montana Code Annotated (MCA).

2. The Commission has provided adequate notice and opportunity to be heard to all interested parties in this matter pursuant to the Montana Administrative Procedures Act (MAPA) requirements for contested case procedures. §§ 2-4-601, *et seq.*, MCA.

#### ORDER

NOW THEREFORE THE COMMISSION ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:

The Commission **grants** the following authority, as stipulated:

Class B – Passengers in limousines service between all points and places in Flathead County. LIMITATIONS: (1) All movements must originate or terminate in Bigfork or a five (5) mile radius thereof; (2) All movements are limited to Flathead County; and (3) Transportation movements require 24 hours advance notice.

Done and dated this 4th day of December, 2000, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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DAVE FISHER, Chairman

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NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

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GARY FELAND, Commissioner

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BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See ARM 38.2.4806.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the Final Order Approving Stipulation issued in Docket T-00.62.PCN in the matter of Margaret Stiger dba Northern Lights Limousine Service, Big Fork, Montana has today been sent to all parties listed.

MAILING DATE: December 6, 2000

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FOR THE COMMISSION

### FIRST CLASS MAIL

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dba Northern Lights Limousine Service  
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Big Fork, MT 59911

Flathead Custom Transportation, Inc.  
dba Kalispell Taxi & Airport Shuttle Service  
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### AS ITS INTERESTS APPEAR:

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